

Message Text

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46

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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R 231302Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4369

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR MO

SUBJ: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MOHAMED TAOUFIK KABBAJ

REF: STATE 15375 (NOTAL)

1. KABBAJ WAS BORN IN RABAT ON NOVEMBER 2, 1929. HE HOLDS VARIOUS MOROCCAN SECONDARY AND ADVANCED DEGREES, AND HAS A DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC LAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN.

2. KABBAJ JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN 1951 AND IN 1956 BECAME A MEMBER OF MOHAMMED V'S CABINET. IN 1961 HE WAS ASSIGNED AS FIRST COUNSELOR TO MOROCCAN EMBASSY IN ROME AND, FOLLOWING ALGERIAN INDEPENDENCE IN 1962, TO ALGIERS AS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES. IN 1963 HE WAS NAMED CHIEF OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND FOLLOWING YEAR BECAME FIRST COUNSELOR AT MOROCCAN EMBASSY IN TUNIS. IN 1967 HE BECAME LEGAL ADVISOR, WITH RANK OF MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY, IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND HELD THIS POSITION UNTIL HIS APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL IN 1972.

3. KABBAJ HAS ATTENDED MANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES INCLUDING 29TH UNGA AND VIENNA CONFERENCE ON TREATY RIGHTS IN 1968-69.

HE IS ONE OF MOROCCO'S LEADING LOS EXPERTS AND WAS CHIEF MOROCCAN SPOKESMAN IN 1972 DISCUSSION WITH THIS EMBASSY

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ON GOM'S DECISION EXTEND ITS EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE. AT THAT

TIME, HE WAS STRONG ADVOCATE OF "INNOCENT" PASSAGE DOCTRINE
ON STRAITS AND KNEW HIS SUBJECT WELL. EMBOFFS WHO HAVE KNOWN
KABBAJ DESCRIBE HIM AS FRANK AND INTELLIGENT.

4. KABBAJ IS BELIEVED SPEAK FRENCH AND ARABIC ONLY.
ANDERSON

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